

A collage of newspaper clippings related to tuition-free education. The central headline reads "TUITION FREE". To the left, another clipping says "PRIORITY TUITION FREEZE". To the right, a clipping mentions "FREEZING Tuition" and "82% who...". At the bottom, a yellow banner states "Proud to be part of the 82% MAJORITY" followed by "VISIT WWW.TUITIONFREE.ORG".

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Illustration by Sean Carson

"The vast majority of Ontarians oppose increasing tuition fees and want action to restore access to higher education."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Squash Strudel with Red Pepper and Sage

by Caragh Titherington

This squash strudel is a delicious treat for the winter season. It is from the October 2000 Food and Drink Magazine published by the LCBO. Enjoy!!!
Serves 8

1/4 cups (50ml) olive oil
1 large red bell pepper, cut into 1.5 inch (4cm) thin strips
1 onion, halved lengthwise and thinly sliced
3 garlic cloves, minced
2lb (1kg) butternut squash, peeled, cut into large pieces and thinly sliced
2 tbsp (25ml) chopped fresh sage
Salt and freshly ground pepper
1/4 cup (50 ml) freshly grated Parmesan cheese

2 tbsp (25ml) fine dry bread crumbs
6 sheets phyllo pastry
1/3 cup (75ml) melted butter

1 Heat half of the oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add red pepper, onion and garlic and cook stirring for 5 minutes, or until tender. Transfer to a bowl. Reduce heat to medium and add remaining oil to skillet. Add squash and cook, stirring often, for 8 to 10 minutes or until just tender. Stir in pepper mixture, sage and season with salt and pepper. Place in a bowl and let cool.

2 Combine Parmesan cheese and bread crumbs in a bowl. Lightly brush 1 sheet of phyllo with some of the melted butter and sprinkle with 1 tbsp of the crumb mixture.

3 Layer with 4 more sheets of phyllo lightly brushing each layer with butter and sprinkling with 1 tbsp crumb mixture. Top with remaining sheet of phyllo and lightly brush with butter. Spoon a 3 inch wide strip of squash mixture lengthwise down pastry 2-inch (5cm) from edge. Fold 1-inch (2.5cm) of the pastry ends over filling. Place seam-side down on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Brush with remaining butter. (Can be assembled up to 4 hours ahead of baking and refrigerated.)
4 Preheat oven to 400 F (200 C).
5 Cut diagonal slits in top of pastry. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until pastry is golden. Cut into diagonal slices and serve warm or at room temperature.



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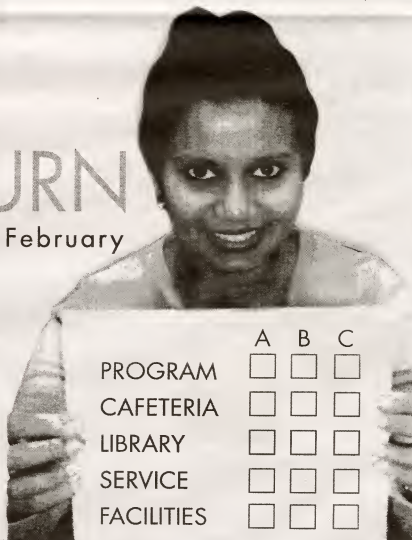
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Designed by Maribelle Bacod 3rd year Graphic Design Student



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Contributions

Contributions to Dialog are always gratefully accepted. Written work in plain text (TXT) or ASCII DOS text please. Images should be on Mac or PC platform in EPS format for vector images or GIF for bitmaps. It is requested that you submit a hard copy of your work with the disk. Original works only please. Please credit any Internet content.

Dialog Collective
The Dialog Collective, the publishers of the Dialog newspaper, creates many part-time jobs and honoraria positions for George Brown College students. The cost of producing a bi-weekly newspaper is in part defrayed by advertising revenue. Occasionally, some advertisers, products, and services do not reflect the policies of the Student Association of George Brown College. The Collective reviews advertising policy from time to time at our weekly meetings. Students concerned about advertising which encourages student debt, bad health habits, or having other concerns about specific ads are encouraged to attend these meetings. If you wish to be on our agenda, contact us by phone at (416) 415-2710 fax: (416) 415-2491 or at dialog@canada.com

Opinions expressed in Dialog are not necessarily those of the Dialog Collective, the Student Association of George Brown College, or its editorial staff. Dialog will not publish any material that attempts to incite violence or hatred against individuals or groups, particularly based on race, national origin, ethnicity, colour, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

Canadian University Press

Dialog is a Member of the Canadian University Press (CUP). Our national advertising agency is Campus Plus.



Next Issue:

LOVE ISSUE

Deadline for copy:

February 1, 2002

Issue Editor:

Sera Gordon

dialog@canada.com

Letters to the Editor

Re: Life Works Letter, 2002.8 Issue:

I appreciate the letter you printed in the last issue of the Dialog.

The purpose of this paper is to be a tool for students to have their voices heard and to have access to information that is meaningful to our diverse student populace. As a publication of the Student Association, it is imperative that we are balanced in the views we print without undue censorship. Though I usually only write creative pieces or articles to solicit feedback in the Dialog, it was requested that I respond to the aforementioned letter.

Approximately four years ago, the then Student Association Board conceptualized the idea of a student driven centre that would meet the different needs of our growing community. The Food Bank and Women's Centre already had a presence on

campus. Safe spaces for students with disabilities and lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgendered persons were lacking. This idea grew into what is now known as the Life Works Centre, which was launched in March 2001. As a part of the Student Association and thus in keeping with its mission, the Life Works Centre is a service provided by students for students. The Centre provides resources, a space to conduct groups, meetings and events. The Life Works Centre relies on the money generated through our businesses, donations and the efforts of volunteers and part-time staff to further evolve and run effectively. I was hired in the year of 2000 to manage the development of the Centre.

The Student Association has recently undergone an extensive restructuring. With this reorganizing, the roles of the managers have changed and in some cases been eliminated. The Student Association Board made these decisions with the vision of making the organization

more student-focused and controlled than the previous structure seemed to allow.

As a service provider practicing social work, I see this change as somewhat inevitable. Isn't the whole purpose of social work to empower the community to be self-sufficient or in other words, work ourselves out of a job? My job title and description has changed. I still however support the students that use the centre and coordinate the various events, activities and groups Life Works hosts. Life Works remains a division of the Student Association and with the new structure, the student elected Board members will have a stronger cooperative relationship with the space. It remains a cohesive service provided for students by students.

Sincerely,

Sharon Kamassah
Life Works Coordinator

Re: Letter to the Editor Issue 2002.8

I am writing on behalf of the Student Association to express my disappointment with the Letter to the Editor published in the January 11, 2002 issue of the Dialog. The letter contained numerous inaccuracies and seriously diminishes the accomplishments of the past 2 1/2 years pertaining to the Life Works Program.

The Life Works program was designed by the elected Student Association Board of Directors to promote a) equity issues on campus, b) provide support to traditionally underrepresented groups, and c) provide a safe space for students to organize and socialize. The Board brought together the Women's Centre and Food Bank and added a Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) Centre and Access Centre for students with disabilities. This was in response to serious problems with accessibility on campus and hate literature against LGBT students.

The Student Association has consistently encouraged the development of active collectives within each centre to allow students to fully participate in a democratic form. This program has always been funded and administered by the SA. Guidelines are in place for all spending within the Student Association to ensure that students' money is accounted for. The Life Works program received an initial investment of more than \$50,000 to build the centre and has operating expenses of nearly \$65,000 annually to support its operations, part-time staff, full-

time coordinator, materials, resources, speakers and events. Annually, budgets are submitted and expenses approved. Approved expenses must be spent for their intended purposes as listed above.

The article inaccurately states that jobs were cut. This year the SA introduced extensive part-time staff to ensure that all centers could be open more often and continues to employ a full-time coordinator. The coordinators job was modified to allow greater student input and direction however the job

remains largely responsible for the supervision of the Centre. Finally, the Student Association runs and administers numerous services for students and regularly promotes its involvement to ensure that students are aware of every service provided.

In conclusion, I would like to note that the Student Association has been recognized by other Colleges and Universities as an innovator and advocate for underrepresented students. This article diminishes the strong commitment that the

elected student leaders and staff have had and continue to have towards assisting students have a rewarding and positive college experience. I am always open to suggestions and dialogue and would encourage any interested or concerned individuals to contact me at 416-415-2456 or drop by the Student Association office.

Wayne Poirier
Executive Director
Student Association of
George Brown College

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Your Student Association and the Canadian Federation of Students believe student debt is out of control. Join us on Feb 6 in a march to Queen's Park. Check with the SA office at your campus.

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Student Association

The Fairness Commission Accuracy, integrity, safety and respect

There are at least two sides to a story and the Dialog Collective strives to allow all people to freely express their opinions. As a forum for diverse viewpoints, it is the responsibility of the Collective to make sure that our policies are fair and also appear to be fair, that we are impartial as well as appear to be impartial.

We encourage everyone to write letters for publication on the Editorial page. Concerns or congratulations about content should be addressed in writing or e-mail as a Letter to the Editor.

George Brown College

200 King Street, Room 167B
Toronto, ON
M5A 3W8

dialog@canada.com

The Fairness Commission is designed to allow readers to be able to access a fair and unbiased medium where concerns about content accuracy can be addressed. We are eager to make corrections when applicable, but it is normally not our policy to publish corrections as a result of typographical errors nor will we repeat errors in the correction. So readers can easily find any corrections, it is our policy to publish them on page

three, or the Editorial page.

In the case of a complaint, please deal directly with the Fairness Commissioner. The Fairness Commission is an independent body that mediates between concerned readers and the Dialog Collective. Members of the Collective are asked to refer fairness concerns directly to the Commissioner, and until a concern is resolved, the Dialog and the Dialog Collective will not comment on the matter. The Collective will cooperate with the Commission during its investigation and will accept the Commission's decisions as

binding.

The Commissioner for this year is Albert Lee. Albert is a graduate of the University of Toronto and has worked in an editorial position on two student newspapers on campus. He is completing his post-graduate work at GBC in the Human Services Counselor program.

Please contact Albert Lee directly at:
golabee@canada.com or call
416-415-2900 ext. 89537.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD

by Jansen Ng

Welcome to all the new Students we have this semester. For those of you who don't know me, I am the First Year Representative for the St. James Campus to the Student Association Board of Directors. I am responsible for communicating to the Board the concerns of all students at GBC, but more specifically the first year students at my campus. I am also obligated to promote the services we provide for students and to make sure all of you get what you pay for.

I have been appointed Commissioner, Special Projects by the Board of Directors. Commissioners are appointed whenever there is a need for leadership. I have been given the portfolio of Information Technology/Information Services Project Manager under this mandate. Many of you are aware of the new \$5 million Student Centre that we are building at Casa Loma. However, not many people realize that there is a huge need to upgrade and

develop our operations to properly serve students. My job will be to plan for the IT/IS needs that we will have and to ensure that staff will be able to do their jobs effectively.

I am also the Chair for the Elections Committee. My job there is to lead discussion on how to improve elections, ensure that planning for the elections is viable and that preparations are underway, and to coordinate our publicity with the Board and the Ambassador Program. We will be holding elections later this semester in March.

The Ambassador Program is an initiative by President Kevin King to reach out to students and actively promote our services and let students know what is happening around the school. We are trying to encourage school spirit and participation in SRCs (Student Representative Councils), clubs, and sport teams. SRCs are set up by certain program divisions such as Business (Business Student's Association), Technology (TSRC), and Ampersand. I am also currently working with Community Services

Representative Jean-Paul Brown in creating a new Community Services Student Representative Council.

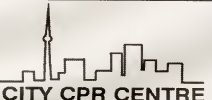
We have two new clubs starting up this semester. The "Ivory Talon" Paintball Club and the Community Worker Club join the American Sign Language Club, MOSAIC, GBC Marketing Association, Human Resources Club, and Anime-Vortex.

Feel free to drop by the Student Association Office (rm. 147) and meet with me if I'm there. If I am not available, please either leave a message with the assistants or in my voicemail at (416) 415-2900 x89479. You may also use that number to set appointments to meet with me.

First Year Representative Director,
St. James Campus
Student Association Board
Commissioner, Special Projects
Chair, S.A. Election Committee
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3 The Student Association is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes candidates from among those groups of individuals that are usually under represented to apply.


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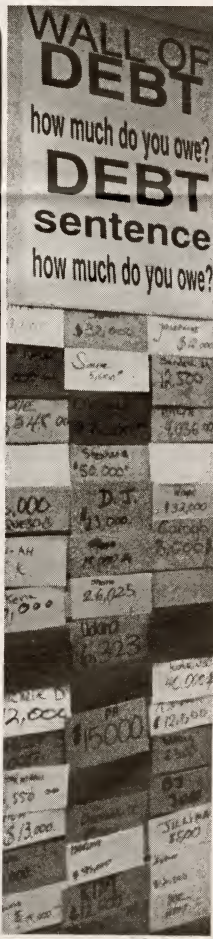
I want to know more



the ambassador program

Visit the Student Association Office in Room 147 to Sign-up for the information session.


Student Association
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WE ARE THE REASON LIFE WORKS

That Painful Problem

Recently, the Life Works LGBT group watched a video on Homophobia entitled *Homophobia: That Painful Problem*. The members of the group were asked to write up their thoughts on the video. Here are some of them.

"When I was told to view a video called *Homophobia: That Painful Problem*, I expected the same old thing. For those of you who have never seen a movie on homophobia, they usually have the same theme in common, *HOMOPHOBIA*. Gay guys and gals being bashed for being them. Yes, homophobia exists! It will always be a part of life! The movie gives examples of acts of violence toward homophobia. One issue that is

portrayed in the movie that I particularly liked was when they indicated that people who are part of gay bashing are those people who believe in what the bible says in literal context, and therefore, say that GOD SAID KILL FAGS. What about not eating fish every Friday? Will those practicing the religion be punished for it? Who is to say that one law of God's is not important as the other. God loves EVERYONE. This movie is an eye opener for those of you who do not know what being queer is all about."

-Name Withheld

"I have always known homophobia exists all over the world, but to actually see footage that was taken in other countries was a major shock to me. Reading some of the laws that coun-

tries have, treating homosexuality like it was a crime and having serious punishments, made me realize how lucky I am to be in a country that is trying to establish equality rather than disregard it. Overall, the documentary was an eye-opener to how far we have yet to go. Sadly, however, the closing credits was stereotypical and made the issues the documentary portrayed seem light-hearted, which is definitely not the case."

If anyone is interested in viewing this video, there is a copy available to be signed out at the St. James Life Works center in room 165B

COMING OUT, STRAIGHT UP!

by Joe F.

Coming out to people in a gay person's life is not a easy task to follow through with. Usually, the individual attempts to figure out the most appropriate time and place to reveal his/her little secret. However, in some incidences the individual will go with a gut feeling and blurt out, "Oh, by the way I'm gay!" For some, the news may come as a shock or a pleasant surprise. Then again, there are cases when some may not find the news to be the blow to the stomach but the delivery itself.

For many the news would have been more welcomed if given at another time or place. Some may feel a sense of betrayal. The receiver may wonder why the news was not mentioned earlier on in the relationship. After hearing the news the receiver may question why he/she was not told before others were and be bothered with self doubt about his/herself and the relationship between one another. Persons hearing the news may start to reevaluate

the strength of the relationship. He/she may begin to feel self-conscious and feel sorry that he/she was not always available to let the other spring the surprise. Besides that, one may begin to develop thoughts of guilt and shame because he/she may believe that he/she has not done enough during the course of the relationship to have the other trust him/her with such news. No matter what the case might be, finding out is not always easy to digest and can be just as complicated to deal with as telling the secret.

So what can you do if this happens to you?

Be honest! Tell whomever is letting you in what thoughts are roaming around in your head. Talk about it and begin to reestablish the relationship. Understand that a gay person has been carrying this secret on his/her shoulder for the most part of his/her life. He/she has been dealing with issues like self doubt, fear of other's reactions and acceptance. A gay individual may know that friends and family might be accepting but

still there are other complications to be dealt with once the cat has been let out of the bag. A gay male or female is beginning to redefine him/herself as a homosexual and as your "new" gay friend or family member. At the same time, he/she should be empathic towards your situation and understand your response.

So be patient with one another. Remember that prior to the event, all those times spent with one another and the bond between each other. Lastly, know that he/she does care deeply about you; otherwise, he/she would not have even bothered to zap you with the news. Nothing much has changed between the two of you. You are still the same and so is the person letting you know. The only difference is how the other will be defining him/herself.

So stop worrying and have a gay old time!

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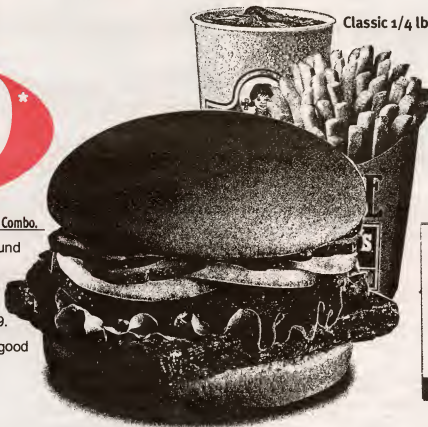
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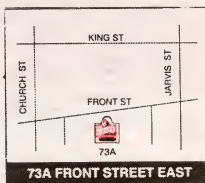
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MONEY MATTERS

MARCH FOR LESS DEBT, LOWER TUITION FEES

by Caragh Titherington

Education is a fundamental component of our society. Post-secondary institutions offer a wide variety of programs including technical, artistic, scientific, and intellectual courses. These provide students with both skills to take into the work force, and skills to become engaging and constructive members of society. Universities and colleges exist not only to provide job training, but also to teach and encourage people to become critical thinkers and to articulate their analysis and ideas so that they may make positive contributions to our global community.

It is vital for the survival of democracy that there be intellectual and active forces present to challenge governments, and to affect necessary change. Having quality post-secondary education accessible to all people is one of the most important ways for societies to enrich their population by ensuring that they have healthy and thinking citizens.

The current Ontario provincial government has a different view of what post-secondary education should be. Their policies reflect an attitude that post-secondary institutions should only provide job training. Since they were elected, this government has changed much of the criteria used to determine universities' and colleges' eligibility for funding. One of the more destructive methods now being used is in giving funding to institutions based on their graduates'

employability.

The problems with this are manifold.

Some programs are geared more towards job training than others. Graduates from the more technical programs have a greater chance of being employed in decent paying jobs upon graduation than their liberal arts counterparts. And thus, the schools, that provide these technical programs are more likely to receive more funding. Students wishing to study Liberal Arts are left to pay higher tuition. This move towards funding based on graduate employability completely undermines the importance of Liberal Arts in our society.

Since they took office in 1995, the Conservative Party has cut 1.6 billion dollars from the operating budgets of universities across the province and more cuts keep coming.

As a result, tuition has risen 60% since 1995.

They have also decided to give those institutions with Graduate and Professional programs increased freedom to raise their fees. This is called deregulation. Because of deregulation, tuition for these programs have risen dramatically. Currently, the average student debt upon graduation from a four year program is \$25,000.

Ontario's New Democratic MPP Peter Kormos commented that "...bright, hard working, capable people, whose fear of not being able to go to college or university is growing on a daily basis, not because they

don't have the potential or the capacity or the skill or the desire, but because this government's persistence at ratcheting up tuition increases has made it impossible for all but the richest of young people to go to post-secondary education without accumulating horrendous and crippling debt."

The Ontario government is insisting that the

"Tuition fees have risen 60% since 1995."

funding cuts are due to a lack of funds in their budget. But while they are getting the post secondary institutions of this province with one hand, they are giving tax breaks to the wealthy with the other hand. In the last budget, the government gave out 4 billion dollars in corporate tax cuts.

As public universities and colleges become increasingly geared towards job training the provincial government has decided to fill the intellectual void by allowing private universities to operate within the province. Private universities are even more expensive than our current public institutions and only

the rich will be able to afford attending. Those coming from mid-to-low income families will be forced to attend the job training facilities of the public institutions, if they are able to attend any at all. Many will find themselves in low-paying jobs and the gap between the rich and the poor will continue, the middle class will virtually disappear.

People will lose their voices and their power if they are denied access to quality post-secondary education. This is probably exactly what the Conservative Party of Ontario is trying to achieve. However, as a society, we cannot allow a government to destroy the roots of our community by restricting higher education to the rich through funding cuts and higher tuitions.

The situation is worsening and it is important that we stand up for our right to education. February 6, 2002 is the National Student Day of Action. It is a day for university, college and high school students to protest against the rising fees education and to demand a tuition freeze.

Your Student Association is organizing a rally and march beginning 11:00am and proceeding to Queen's Park where students will be met by other students from the University of Toronto, York University, Ryerson and other student bodies. Please join us if you can and note that students will not be penalized for their absence on that day if they are participating in the rally.

Ease Your Tuition Fee Pain

by Ashley R. Atkins

A lot of time and energy has been spent talking, writing and protesting about rising tuition fees in Canada over the last decade. Yet, it seems as though very little progress has been made in stopping, or at least slowing down, what seems to be a growing epidemic within our post-secondary educational system. As a former student at the University level I can tell you that shelling out more than \$4000.00 for a strike-affected year is definitely not what I call a bargain! Mind you, I say this because my last year spent at York University saw me sit in front of the television and veg for more than two months (October & November) while many Professors and Teacher Assistants went and sought an increase in salaries and job security.

Nevertheless, I am not writing to heckle, complain or demand that my tuition fees should be frozen immediately. I have come to the realization that governments will continue to cut funding even further in the education system, that professors and school administrators will demand higher salaries and that new technological equipment will cost individual schools ever-increasing amounts. In turn, our tuitions will continually spiral upwards until they hit an invisible ceiling to that only the 'elite' will be able to afford. (But who am I to speak on behalf of my starving and stressed-out student population? We are only the FUTURE of this great country of ours!). Well, that is not the case any more, and if fees are not to be reduced than our routes must be taken to find further financing for our education and for our future prospects.

With those few words in mind, and with what I have written about increasing fees, I feel that it is necessary not to criticize what has already happened, but to minimize the impact that tuition fees will have on us-the students. Over the last several days I have filed through various newspaper and magazine articles, internet web-sites and links, as well as private and public institutions that are offering a hand to those students in need of financial assistance.

Sure, the fees will still remain high, and you may still decide to join those in line to run down Bay Street with a placard in hand crying foul, but at least I want to give you the opportunity to attend the most incredible institution that students can still call their own: SCHOOL!

I have compiled a list of several avenues that you can take to acquire funds to ease the pain of tuition fees. Keep this list close by and be sure to refer back when in need. (For some programs you will either have to search the web for special instructions, make a phone call or speak with a financial advisor-which I will touch upon later.)

Here we go:

(a) Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and Other Government Assistance Programs (ie, Millennium Fund, Bursary or Grant Programs)

(b) Work Study Programs: Part-time employment on the GBC campus for Full-Time students.

(c) Scholarships and Awards: Based on outstanding academic achievement. Quite often academic excellence and financial needs are the primary criteria necessary.

(d) External Awards: Given through external agencies to post-secondary students. Applications are required in advance of the next academic year. For further information check out

<http://www.yorku.ca/osfs/externalaw.shtml>

(e) (i) Financial Counselling: Learn a better way to manage money, avenues to seeking assistance and scholarships/awards. Make an appointment with a financial advisor.

(ii) Budgeting: Here are a few interesting web links to bank-related student budgeting sites Banks offer suggestions to make budgeting easy and fun. You can find help at:

Royal Bank

www.royalbank.com/student/budget_planner.html

Scotiabank

www.scotiabank.ca/cgi-bin/student.cgi

Bank of Montreal

www.scotiabank.ca/cgi-bin/student.cgi

(f) Summer Employment (and winter): Many jobs open to post-secondary students-start early and expand your employment potential

(g) George Brown College Financial Assistance web-site www.gbrowncollege.on.ca/saffairs/financialassistance.html

Although I have offered you a fairly extensive list of resources and references to assist you in looking for funds to help with tuition fees, do not forget that there are many other resourceful ways to seek help. They may include your parents, relatives or grandparents, summer jobs or even through sound budgeting and savings programs.

Talk to your professors, seek advice from a financial adviser or even drop by the GBC Financial Assistance Offices at the St. James Campus (416-415-2476) and the Casa Loma Campus (416-415-4060) for more information. Remember, tuition fees are the necessary evil of our education system. Whether fees continue to rise or not, we have the right to satisfy an obligation to ourselves and to our future career potentials. Using the various methods of assistance out there will only make life easier. Good luck!

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Feb 13: Evening of Music

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Feb 21: Fashion Show
Gymnasium SJ
7:00pm
mosaiccom@hotmail.com
Dwayne Hines
416-415-2101

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STUDENT CENTRE

dialog

IN FOCUS

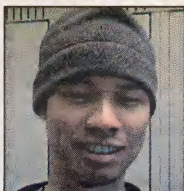
How do you feel about having to pay your student loan Six months after school ends?



Bashir: "It's fair, 6 months should be enough time to find a job in their field"



Joanna: "It's total BULLSHIT!"



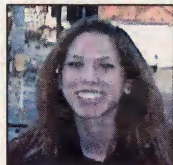
Kevin: "Students might not find a job right away; They deserve a break."



Helen: "It Depends on how much money a person makes when they get out of school."



Longman: "High Tuition fees make it hard for students to pay off loans."



Jackie: "No, I hate the government."



Domenic & Ruby: "Yes, it's fair. If it wasn't for them who would pay for our education."



Azra: "Six months is fine, eventually you have to pay it off anyway."



Sharan & Jesse: "It depends on how high your tuition is, job demand and how competitive your field is"

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Designer: Nik Szymanski
3rd Year Advertising & Graphic Design Student
1999-2000

THE CITY
COLLEGE
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Michael: "Six months goes by fast and not everyone is able to start paying that quickly."



Kehinde: "No, because the job market is really tough."



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TECHNOLOGY

by Sean Carson

Palm Pilots have been around for the past few years now, ranging in many models. One of the most predominant models ever made was the Palm Vx (pronounced 5x). It's universal compatibility with either PC or MAC, along with the wide assortment of software make it a handy technological tool for anyone looking for a personal organizer with capabilities of a mini laptop. I have been lucky enough to be able to afford my own Palm Vx. And I have to say, that I love this product even more after using it for the week and a half. Like I said, it's basically a mini laptop for people who don't want or need to pay for and carry a 3 to 5 pound laptop. And at only a fraction of the cost, you can't go wrong. I picked up this Palm Vx with a folding keyboard and case for only \$350.00 plus tax. If you consider the price of a laptop compared to this, you can't go wrong; unless you are looking for something with more power for graphical reasons, or something for a more "power user" sense. If you only need something to keep dates, your address book and be able to

type notes, then the Palm Vx is a excellent choice! This story was written on my Palm Vx as I was sitting on the train home from school. So, that proves it's very useful! On top of that, when you want to synchronize your desktop files to your Palm, all you have to



do, is sit the Palm in the included "HotSync" cradle and press the button. The Palm software that you install on your desktop will then check to make sure everything in all your Palm applications matches all your information on your Palm Desktop software. Imagine just the press of a button will update your address book, date book, memos, email and much more! It's easier then doing it yourself on your

laptop, or paying a large amount of money for software, when a Palm will do the same thing at the touch of a button. On more of the technical side, although the Palm Vx doesn't have a large processor, with an abundant amount of RAM, it's just right for those day-to-day users. This product runs with a 33MHz processor and 8MB of Memory to hold all your data and software. This may not seem like a lot, but for the Palm OS and handheld, it's plenty. This model is only a grayscale screen, but you can get colour models. Of course, they cost a lot more. The 8MB of memory is enough to hold 400 emails messages, 50 add-on applications (based-on 50K application size), 8 years of appointments, 8,000 addresses, 300 to do items, and 1,000 memos. Although, these numbers will differ from each user, depending on what they install. The Palm Vx measures 4.5" x 3.1" x 0.4" and is only 4 ounces! You won't even feel it in your pocket or bag. Other basic features include a infrared port, backlit display, desktop import/export formats (CSV,

TAB delimited, and TXT), direct export to Microsoft Word and Excel, and the basic handheld applications: Mail, Date Book, Address Book, To Do List, Memo Pad, Expense and Calculator. The keyboard that is designed for the Palm Vx unfolds from its own case into a full-size keyboard for



typing. The Palm Vx locks into place at the top of the keyboard and can be placed at either a 135 or 180-degree angle. The keys are easy to use, and don't case any slow down from your own keyboard at home or work. The type rate is astounding, along with the construction of the keyboard. The most amazing part is how the keyboard folds up into its own case measuring 3.6" x 5.1" x 0.3" weighing an amazing 7.9 ounces. Software for the Palm OS ranges from everyday utilities to office software and also to a large amount of games. Keep in mind, that the software for your Palm will also cost a third or less of the price of full versions for a laptop. The most popular software to date for the Palm OS is Office 2000 compatible set of applications to open Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Access. There are also versions to open Corel Word Files, Ulead makes a small graphic application

to open, view, resize and rename images right on your handheld. The best part about the software is its ease of use and installation. You can download it directly from the Internet and install it right away. When you perform a "HotSync" operation, it will automatically install all of the programs you have in your Install List. I won't go into too much detail about this, because your Palm Pilot manual will tell you all you need to know. Just keep in mind it's easy! And when you perform a "HotSync" for installing software remember, it will also make sure that your address book, date book, memos, email and many other things are up-to-date on your Palm. The Palm Vx is one of the most versatile tools in today society of appointments, dates and numerous addresses. If you have a long trip to work or school like I do, then you just Sync your Palm to your desktop every morning, and read your emails on the trip or bus. You then can reply to them, and when you come home, plug it in and press the "HotSync" button, and all your new information will be sent to your desktop, along with the program sending all your email replies for you. I don't know of any easier way to perform everyday tasks of today's world, except using a Palm Pilot. This little technological tool is useful in so many ways, that you'll ever wonder how you did without one! If you have any comments or questions regarding this technology article, please don't hesitate to contact me at the Dialog Office. You can leave message for letter for me at 200 King St. E., Room 167B. Address it to Sean Carson and I will try to reply as soon as I can. Thank you.

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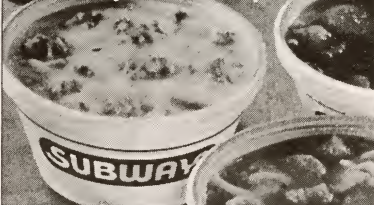
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Sports

Are the Raptors play-off material?

by Nancy Lim

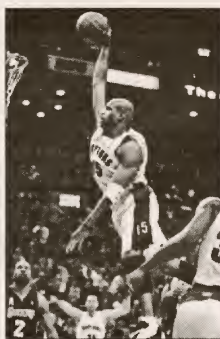
They settle for the outside jumper. They don't get to the free throw line. They cannot keep their heads in the game for a full 48 minutes.

Are these acceptable tendencies of a team projected to dominate the Eastern Conference? Definitely not.

The Toronto Raptors had high hopes after a successful playoff run last spring. In the First Round, they defeated the New York Knicks in five games. They were also a Vince Carter jumpshot short of advancing past the Philadelphia 76ers into the Eastern Conference Final. The re-signings of free-agents Antonio Davis, Alvin Williams, and Jerome "Junk Yard Dog" Williams added to this sense of optimism; not to mention the acquisition of Hakeem "The Dream" Olajuwon, and the extension of superstar Carter's contract.

In total, Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) dished out over \$250-million, and that's a pretty heavy price to pay for a squad that currently stands with a paltry win record.

And so, here's the burning question that MLSE and all Raptors fans are dying to hear answered: If the Raptors play too poorly during



Vince Carter

the regular season, can they become a force during the playoffs?

No one knows for sure, but the team's play of late is not so encouraging. As the midway point of the season approaches, players and coaches need to stop making excuses and produce some results.

Carter, undoubtedly the best player on the team, needs to step up every single game. He needs to maintain a high level of intensity on both ends of the floor, and not settle for the outside shot. Everyone knows what he can do when he drives to the bucket. Carter must also lead by example because the rest of the Raptors will surely follow his lead.

At times this season, Davis appears to be uncomfortable playing alongside Olajuwon. He needs to get used to playing power forward, and since The Dream is back in action after suffering a toe injury, Davis must become comfortable playing the four-spot in a hurry. However, Davis has recently shown some progress; he's beginning to rediscover his mid-range jumper that made him deadly in the playoffs last spring.

Point guard Alvin Williams must continue to be a leader on the floor. At times his decision-

making can be questioned. However, when the game is on the line in the final minutes, he has proven that he can make the clutch plays time and again.

Then there's the coach. Lenny Wilkins is not a strong motivational force. He needs to be much more vocal with his players. Bench them if they make a mistake. Call a timeout if his players are losing focus. Do something!

And so goes this Toronto team trudging along in the mess they call the Eastern Conference. Besides the New Jersey Nets who have a record above .700, no other squad on this side of the continent appears to be serious contenders come playoff time.

If the Raptors don't produce results anytime soon, they will be wasting a perfect opportunity to grab a top seed and home-court advantage in the spring, when the games become truly important. The playoffs are when the contenders step up and the pretenders fall short. Only time will tell whether this year's Toronto squad will be able to make some noise once again.

Varsity News

by Scott Blakely

Back In The Swing of Things:

Well, the athletics department has started the New Year off with a bang! In an attempt to help those who made more exercise a New Year's resolution, athletics has reassured the ever popular "hussy bucks". Every time you exercise for more than 20 minutes (using the GBC athletics facilities), you will receive 100 hussy bucks. Accumulated hussy bucks will turn into fabulous prizes (see staff for further details). In intramural action, the ball hockey event of the year kicked off this week. Teams began battle on Tuesday, but scores were not available by press date.

Badminton News:

Anxiously awaiting the Regionals (February 1st-3rd), the badminton team continues to play well. In the GBC invitation, Glen Thomas of GBC won the men's singles while Edwina Eng (GBC) finished a solid second in the women's heap. In doubles, GBC's own Eddy Kung and Oscar Lai took first place. Coach Kim Ng has the bunch playing well at the right time of year.

Time to Hit The Slopes:

The varsity ski team season gets under way on Wednesday, January 23rd at Earl Baley Park (Bathurst & Sheppard) at 6pm. There are three invitational races: January 29th at Devils Elbow; February 7th at Georgian Peaks; and February 13th at Mansfield. The OCAA Championships will be on February 20th and 21st at Georgian Peaks. Believe it or not, there is still time to get in on the action. Contact "sheky" ASAP at 416-415-4627 or pop in to any gymnasium for further information.

Soccer News:

All soccer players are invited to try out for either the men's or women's team. Practices have begun and will continue on the following dates:

Men - Mondays 6pm at Casa Loma
Thursdays 7pm at St. James

Women - Tuesdays 5:30pm at Casa Loma
Thursdays 5:30pm at St. James

Both teams will participate in three tournaments prior to the Regionals and will be held at the Scarborough Soccer Centre on March 8th and 9th. Come on out, you'll get a kick out of it!

Basketball News:

Women - January 15 Exh. George Brown 39 (Anna Russell 11, Kim Redhead 9) Mohawk 55
January 18 George Brown 44 (Anna Russell 17, Kim Redhead 14) Durham 39

Men - January 15 George Brown 71 (Michael Hayles 19, Dion Horsford 17) Mohawk 74
January 18 George Brown 67 (Dion Horsford 23, Wilton Edwards 12) Durham 59

Volleyball News:

Men - January 18 George Brown O Algonquin 3 (14-25, 20-25, 22-25)
Keep That New Year's Resolution - - - Hit The Gym today:

Everyone has their own excuse as to why they are not able to workout. Here is a list of ten of the more common excuses used, with our solutions followed.

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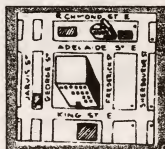


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ENTERTAINMENT



CD Reviews for PUNK fans!

GOOD RIDDANCE-Symptoms of a leveling spirit
Fat Wreck Chords-2001



Good Riddance have been around for a while and show no signs of slowing down. This CD is fast, moderately heavy, and a good listen from start to finish. There is also a hidden track at the end. My only problem with this one is it's short (only 15 songs).

PROPAGANDHI-Today's Empires, Tomorrow's Ashes
G7 Welcoming Committee-2001



Smart, fast and heavy; this record has it all. Listen open heartedly and you might even learn something. These guys are from Winnipeg and we all like to support canuck talent.

PUNK O RAMA-Vol 6
Epitaph-2001



This compilation has 23 good songs for 10 bucks; great deal but keep in mind that only 6 of those songs aren't previously released. The 6 songs are worth the 10 dollars by them selves which still makes this one a great deal.

ALIEN ANT FARM-Antology
Newnoise/Dreamworks records-2001



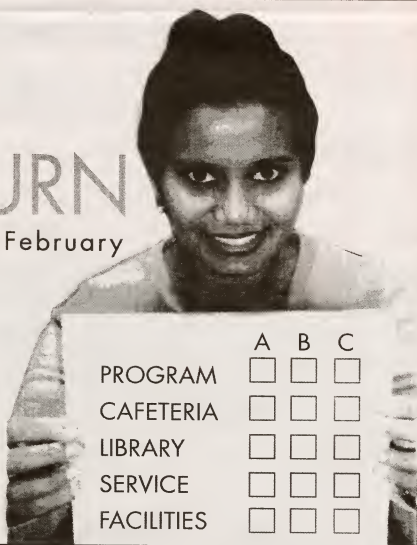
Slow and boring. There is only one good song and unfortunately they didn't write it. Don't be fooled; this is not punk rock.

Reviews done by DJ Corning



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